

ABOUT ULACIT

The Latin American University of Science and Technology –ULACIT–, based in San José, Costa Rica, is an innovative, enterprising, and fully bilingual university leading higher education in the Central American region since 1987. ULACIT prepares its students to lead in science, technology, business, and other fields of human endeavor, with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to serve the world in the 21st century.

Why ULACIT? A Premier Study Abroad Destination: ULACIT offers one of the region's strongest and most differentiated Study Abroad experiences, fully taught in English, academically rigorous, and built around experiential learning and SDG-centered innovation across Business, STEM, Latin American Studies, Psychology, and Spanish.

ULACIT stands as the **top English-taught study abroad option in Central America**, blending academic excellence, global competencies, and unforgettable life experiences.

ULACIT attracts international students from all around the globe. Free mover students, as well as students coming from both partner universities and from non-partner universities are eligible for admission.

Admissions information and enrollment process details can be found at the end of this document under ***Admissions Process***. All interested students must fulfill the admissions steps described.

Semester Abroad (15 Weeks): Students enroll in **up to five (5) English-taught courses**, selecting freely from ULACIT's **seven academic tracks; being able to mix and match courses from different tracks (pre-requisites may be required for some engineering courses)**.

Study Abroad Program Tracks:

- **Track 1 — Biomedical Engineering (5 courses)**
- **Track 2 — Business & Marketing (5 courses)**
- **Track 3 — IT Engineering: Software, AI & Cybersecurity (7 courses)**
- **Track 4 — Industrial Engineering (5 courses)**
- **Track 5 — Wellbeing & Psychology (7 courses)**
- **Track 6 — Latin American & Development Studies (6 courses)**
- **Track 7 — Spanish Immersion (7 levels + specialized options)**

Academic Load Options

Course Type	Contact Hours	US Credits	ECTS
Standard Academic Course	45 hours	3 credits	6 ECTS
Lab/Fieldwork Course	60 hours	4 credits	8 ECTS
Spanish Immersion Course	45 hours	3 credits	6 ECTS

Maximum recommended load per semester: **5 courses (15–20 credits / 30–40 ECTS)** depending on mix of academic + lab courses.

OUR GLOBAL EDUCATION SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ✓ Study abroad course enrollment for Spring, Summer, and Fall Academic Periods taught 100% in the English language.
- ✓ Spanish Language Immersion Program offered through-out the year during every academic period.
- ✓ Host Family Program (meals, Wi-Fi, laundry, room, and board included)
- ✓ Year-round Faculty-Led and Customized Study Abroad Experiences.
- ✓ Customized Short-Term Summer or Winter Programs for student groups in International Business and Leadership, or Sustainable Development and Latin American Studies.
- ✓ Customized academic programs for researchers and student groups at La Marta Wildlife Refuge.
- ✓ Gap-year Program, stay with a host family, tour and travel throughout Costa Rica, and take Spanish Courses and Introductory Undergraduate Business or Latin-American

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

University name:	Latin American University of Science and Technology (ULACIT)
Location:	San José, Costa Rica (Google Map link)
Associate Vice-president for Global Education	Luis Felipe Dobles Junqueira: ldobles@ulacit.ac.cr
Global Education Office	studyabroad@ulacit.ac.cr
Website	https://www.ulacit.ac.cr/studyabroadulacit/

What Sets ULACIT Apart

- **#1 Private University in Central America & Costa Rica for 15 consecutive years (QS & regional rankings).**
- **The only formally bilingual university in Costa Rica:** over 95 regularly offered English-taught courses, all credit-transferable.
- **Accredited and internationally benchmarked undergraduate programs** with project-based, outcomes-focused pedagogy.
- **Teaching for Understanding (TfU) methodology:** 0% exams. 100% projects, cases, field experiences, and applied learning.
- **Student centered campus life;** internationalized, fun, vibrant and dynamic. [Find more on our Campus Life Instagram Profile.](#)
- **Fully internationalized student community** with participants from 15+ countries.
- **Experiential learning as the core of every course:** site visits, service learning, applied projects, industry challenges.
- **Rich cultural immersion:** guided excursions, service projects, local community engagement, and curated travel experiences across Costa Rica.
- **Faculty mentorship & high-touch support** from ULACIT's Global Education Office.
- **Unique location:** San José's dynamic tech and cultural hub, with accessible beaches, volcanoes, and rainforests.

All programs integrate:

- **SDG Alignment:** All programs integrate alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Experiential Learning:** Learning is hands-on and experience-based.
- **Faculty Mentorship:** Students receive guidance and support from faculty mentors.
- **Cultural Engagement:** Engages students with the local culture through field trips, service projects, and industry visits.
- **Academic Credit:** Students earn transferable academic credit.
- **Skill Development:** Focus on gaining global competencies and valuable skills.
- **Authentic Experience:** Provides an authentic Costa Rican cultural and life experience.

Undergraduate Course Enrollment Dates and Deadlines for 2026

<p>Spring Academic Period (1st Quarterly Period 2026)</p> <p>Late Nomination & Application Deadline: December 05th, 2025 Total Payment Deadline: December 12th, 2025 New Student Orientation: January 09th, 2026 Class Start & End Dates: January 12th to April 25th, 2026</p>	
<p>Summer Program</p> <p>Late Nomination & Application Deadline: May 11th, 2026 Total Payment Deadline: May 25th, 2026</p> <p>SUMMER 1: June 15th to July 24th, 2026 SUMMER 2: August 3rd to September 13th, 2026</p>	
<p>Fall Academic Period (3rd Quarterly Period 2026)</p> <p>Late Nomination & Application Deadline: August 24th, 2026 Total Payment Deadline: August 31st, 2026 New Student Orientation: September 4th, 2026 Class Start & End Dates: September 7th to December 19th, 2026</p>	

**Late nomination admittance and payments considered and processed upon request on a case-by-case basis*

Spanish Immersion Program

Enroll in our Spanish Immersion Program consisting of 45 contact hour course covering the complete academic quarterly period.

The Spanish Immersion Program covers different levels of language proficiency. Develop basic Spanish language proficiency in a short span of time through a culturally relevant learning immersion experience:

- **SPAN-101** Basic 1 Spanish
- **SPAN-102** Basic 2 Spanish
- **SPAN-201** Intermediate 1 Spanish
- **SPAN-202** Intermediate 2 Spanish
- **SPAN-301** Advanced 1 Spanish
- **SPAN-302** Advanced 2 Spanish
- **SSP 304** Spanish for Specific Purposes (Healthcare, Business, Sciences)
- Custom modules available for partner universities (45–90 hours)

The content of each individual language course will also get you acquainted with three perspectives of Costa Rica's national identity: Community and Culture, Biodiversity, History, Democracy and Politics.

Each language course covers 45 contact hours corresponding to 3 US credits or 8 ECTS, through 3 hourly lessons per week. Each course will also cover aspects relevant to the student's intercultural experience in Costa Rica, learning about the country's community and culture, sustainability model and biodiversity, its history and democratic and political life. Also available 30 contact hour individualized or pair tutorships.

According to their proficiency level, students will be recommended enrollment in any of our entry level courses; individual one on one tutorials and individual advanced Spanish lessons also available.

Price Spanish Immersion Course: \$700 (3 US credits or 6 ECTS, 45 hours)

Price Individual or Two-Person Spanish Immersion Tutorship (2 US credits or 4 ECTS, 30 hours):

- Individual Tutorship: **\$1.200**
- Two Person Tutorship: **\$1.050** (*Applicable for student pairs who enroll tutorships together)

Learn or better your Spanish language competencies through a top-quality language course and immersive cultural experiences.

For more information on our Spanish Immersion Program and if you wish to enroll, please write to:
studyabroad@ulacit.ac.cr

Summer Abroad Program

Summer Abroad (6 Weeks) ([access brochure here](#)) offered in two intensive sessions:

- **SUMMER 1: June 15th to July 24th, 2026**
- **SUMMER 2: August 3rd to September 13th, 2026**

Students may enroll in **up to 6 credits (12 ECTS)** per session by taking:

- 2 academic courses (3 credits each) OR
- Spanish Immersion is also available
- Specific program themes combining relevant disciplinary competencies offered each year.

The Summer Abroad integrates:

- Intensive coursework
- Experiential and project-based learning
- Curated excursions to beaches, volcanoes, and rainforests
- Community and industry engagement

Intensive, Experiential, English-Taught Courses + Costa Rica Immersion

ULACIT's **6-week Summer Abroad Program** offers an academically rigorous yet culturally immersive experience where students earn **up to 12 US credits (24 ECTS)** per session while exploring one of the most biodiverse and innovative countries in the world.

All courses are:

- Taught 100% in English
- Designed for transferability (3 US credits / 6 ECTS)
- Built with ULACIT's project-based, 0%-exams pedagogy
- Integrated with experiential learning and SDG alignment

HOW THE SUMMER COURSES ARE TAUGHT (6-WEEK MODEL)

Two 45-contact-hour courses delivered Monday afternoon through Thursday morning. Students take **two core courses** over 6 weeks. Each course consists of **45 contact hours**, for a total of **90 instructional hours**.

Weekly Schedule Format

- **Monday: Afternoon Classes**
- **Tuesday: Morning & Afternoon Classes**
- **Wednesday: Morning & Afternoon Classes**
- **Thursday: Morning Classes**
- **Friday–Sunday: Reserved for excursions, cultural immersion and independent travel**

For more information on our Spanish Immersion Program and if you wish to enroll, please write to:
studyabroad@ulacit.ac.cr

Faculty-Led Programs

Our Global Education Office develops customized academic programs and global education experiences that cater to the specific needs of institutions, third party- providers, faculty-led initiatives, or specific student groups.

Let us take care of the logistics of planning and design details of your custom short- term study abroad experience or faculty-led program needs.

Our custom designed programs will complement any academic lessons with experiential learning through field trips and site visits of interest.

We will develop customized academic programs to expand your study abroad offerings in an ample number of subjects, from engineering, information technologies, entrepreneurship, management leadership skills, and business administration to sustainability studies, education, health sciences, law, human rights, and more.

We collaborate with your faculty team to create study abroad programs that resonate with a broad spectrum of students and academic subjects and objectives.

Whether you want to offer a course taught by your own faculty or a customized course in an area of interest, ULACIT provides the expert academic support, resources, and flexibility you need to create your own study abroad experiences in Costa Rica.

We offer additional services to ensure that your students live a unique global experience in Costa Rica. Services include trips to local institutions, site visits, guest speakers, transportation, housing, field trips throughout Costa Rica and any other additional support services required.

Our Global Education Team will work closely with you to develop programs that satisfy your specific requirements, including curriculum, complementary cocurricular activities, and comprehensive support services that best suit the needs of your institution and your students.

Just share your vision with us, and we will use our expertise, knowledge, and resources to customize your program features to fit within your budget.

Housing Information

ULACIT works with host families in San Jose who have welcomed international students into their homes for years. Each home has been carefully selected by ULACIT program administrators to ensure comfort and safety for international students.

Our Home Stay Program allows our international students to experience authentic Costa Rican culture, while staying in a safe family environment, benefit from the host families' support during their stay, establish unique lasting friendships, and practice Spanish with native language speakers.

Host families provide independence and a safe environment for our international guest students.

Each home has been carefully vetted to ensure comfort, independence, and safety for our international students. Our homestay program provides:

- ✓ A safe and welcoming host family environment.
- ✓ All meals included (breakfast, lunch, and dinner).
- ✓ Wi-Fi internet Access
- ✓ Private room and independence
- ✓ Use of the kitchen and laundry room.
- ✓ Access keys to the house.
- ✓ Access to all common areas
- ✓ Linens once a week throughout your stay.
- ✓ Laundry once a week.

All Host Families are located at the most 30 minutes away from campus and downtown San José. Students can choose how long to stay with a host family, stay per month, or pay for the complete academic period.

Price per month (4-week stay): \$950 (\$35 per additional night)

Price for academic period (16-week stay): \$3.800

Our Home Stay Program assures you access to homely comforts and a safe environment in San José, each home has been carefully chosen to guarantee a welcoming and safe stay.

If you want more information simply reply to this email and let us know. We will provide you with information on the families and their homes.

To obtain a homestay application form or to inquire about housing at ULACIT, please contact: studyabroad@ulacit.ac.cr

Health insurance information

All international students coming to ULACIT are required to purchase an international student health insurance plan with coverage in Costa Rica (no student will be accepted without it). Students must present a copy of their international health insurance ID card or written verification of coverage to be admitted and send a copy of this form for our records. We recommend that insurance coverage include the following:

General Medical Coverage: Medical care for illness or accident, both outpatient and inpatient visits, access to specialists, prescription drugs, and diagnostic tests.

Emergency Coverage: Medical care in cases of emergency, including emergency room visits and urgent treatment, ambulance transfer if necessary.

Hospitalization coverage: In case of serious illness or accident, the insurance should cover hospitalization, surgical interventions, and post-operative care.

Repatriation: Coverage in case of death, including repatriation of the body to the country of origin.

Visa and Migration

Visitors to Costa Rica must have a valid passport as well as proof of their intent to exit the country before their visa or entry stamp expires. All non-resident travelers must possess a return ticket or a ticket as proof of when they intend to exit the country, commonly referred to as an outbound exit or onward ticket. Please carry a digital or physical copy of your admissions letter in case it is requested by a migration officer.

Incoming international students have different legally viable options to resolve their migratory status in Costa Rica for their short-term stay (*one or two academic periods*).

Once in Costa Rica we will aide and advice you on different options to renew your migratory status following the applicable migratory policies at the moment.

Students are advised to enter and remain in Costa Rica with an up to 180-day provisional tourist visa. Your country of origin determines the number of days available to stay in Costa Rica as a tourist before the need of renewing the tourist visa. USA and European Union residents are commonly awarded a 180-day tourist visa.

For this migratory status no previous process is required, the tourist visa is automatically issued by Migration Authorities for any international traveler entering the country by land or air.

So, either a dated or open-ended return ticket for an international flight or bus transfer service are needed when entering Costa Rica. The immigration officer will ask for it upon your arrival.

The departure plans from Costa Rica must be shown to Migration Authorities at the airport with a return ticket, but that the ticket can be open ended, so incoming exchange students need a return ticket but not necessarily with a set return date.

Once in Costa Rica to maintain their legal migratory status after 180 days or if the tourist visa is awarded for less time, students can either exit any land border (a quick weekend trip to Panama or Nicaragua) to renew their tourist visa or request a student visa through ULACIT's migration lawyer with a cost of \$200 which will automatically suspend the expiration of their 90-day tourist visa until Migratory Authorities process their student visa request which takes over 6 months in average. This is a common practice for short term exchange students and would be sufficient to maintain their legal migratory status while the short-term exchange student completes their 115-day academic period stay.

The process is carried out with the student already in Costa Rica, it is not required to go to a consulate. The requirements to process a student visa extension for a short-term stay are:

1. Two passport size photographs, 5cm x 5cm, on a white background.
2. Complete photocopy of your current passport. Your passport and visa must be valid.
3. ULACIT acceptance letter as an Exchange student.
4. A payment of \$250 to the migration lawyer who will take care of the initial request process and accompany the process. This payment already includes tax stamps and the fee charged by the General Directorate of Migration to process the visa extension request. These payments are to be made once the student is in Costa Rica.

Students who wish to stay for longer than 10 months should prepare the following documents and have them before arriving, this process is also carried out with the student in Costa Rica:

1. Birth certificate duly legalized or apostilled where the name of the parents is recorded. All documents must be in Spanish, if not, they must be officially translated in Costa Rica. If you cannot obtain your birth certificate with the apostille, you can present it without apostille momentarily.

2. Certification of criminal records from your country of origin or where you have resided for the last three years duly legalized or apostilled. All documents must be in Spanish, if not, they must be officially translated.
3. A bank statement from them or their parents from the last 12 months to prove their solvency and the existence of income to support their stay in Costa Rica. The bank statement should be notarized by a Certified Public Accountant.

Living Expenses

To maintain standard of living for a single person, students should plan for a budget in a range from \$1,500 to \$2,000 a month which would include housing, meals, and utilities. An additional budget for tour and travel should be planned, hotel rooms to range from \$60 to \$400 per night, one day trips from \$80 to \$180. Weekend trips usually include a 3 night stay plus \$6 to \$10 per meal. Our Global Education Office may arrange hotel reservations, complete weekend, or week tours.

Admissions Process for International Exchange or Short-Term Fee-Paying Students

Our admissions process has two stages which students will complete in 4 steps:

Stage 1 Nomination: Steps 1 and 2.

Stage 2 Admissions: Steps 3 and 4.

Step 1: Please complete your Personal Information and Academic Information. Make sure to check the Fact Sheet document and be aware of the academic period start and end dates, nomination deadlines, and services provided. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

Step 2: Once all the personal and academic information requested through the International Exchange Nomination Form is completed and sent, students will receive a message from our academic advisor informing them of their nomination process within 10 business days. If admitted, students will be sent an official acceptance letter and asked to complete the Exchange Admissions Form to fulfil the exchange admissions process. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

Final admittance will only be provided after all the documentation and payments have been finalized. Important notes:

- Universities or groups interested in sending students for an academic exchange semester or in a customized study abroad program can contact the Global Education Office at the following addresses: studyabroad@ulacit.ac.cr, copying ldobles@ulacit.ac.cr
- Independent students must be at least 18 years old to apply. Younger students are only accepted with a group or a sponsor school.
- Students must ask their international office or school/faculty to generate a complete official transcript as part of the documentation they must hand in. Unofficial copies of transcripts will not be accepted.

Tuition & Fees (2026)

Course Type	Fee	Hours	Credits	ECTS
Study With Locals Course	\$650	45h	3	6
Semester Abroad Academic Course	\$790	45h	3	6
Semester Abroad Lab or Field Work Course	\$960	60h	4	8
6-week Summer Abroad (includes housing & meals)	\$4.500	90h	6	12
Spanish Immersion Course	\$700	45h	3	6
Spanish Immersion Specialized Course	\$930	60h	4	8

*special discounts for university groups

Administrative & Housing

- Application Fee:** \$150
- Didactic Materials (up to 4 courses):** \$180
- Homestay:** \$950/month (breakfast & dinner included)
- Additional days: \$35/day

Budget Example – 15-Week Semester Abroad (26 ECTS)

Course Load:

- 1 Spanish course (6 ECTS)
- 2 Academic courses (12 ECTS)
- 1 Lab/Fieldwork course (8 ECTS)

Budget Package Example: 15-week semester abroad 26 ECTS (1 Spanish course of 6 ECTS + 2 Academic Courses of 6 ECTS each + 1 Lab or Fieldwork course of 8 ECTS)

Semester Abroad (15-weeks)	Fee	Amount	Total	ECTS	US CREDITS
<u>Tuition Fees</u>					
Spanish Course	\$700	1	\$700	6	3
6 ECTS Academic Course	\$790	2	\$1.580	12	6
8 ECTS Lab/Fieldwork Course	\$960	1	\$960	8	4
Materials	\$180	1	\$180	0	0
Registration fee	\$150	1	\$150	0	0
Total Tuition Fees			\$3.570	26	
<u>Other Fees</u>					
Homestay (month - \$35 additional day)	\$980	4	\$3.920	0	0
Airport Pickup	\$45	0	\$0	0	0
Lunch tickets campus cafeterias (5 lunches)	\$35	0	\$0	0	0
Total Service Fees			\$3.920		
<i>TOTAL SEMESTER FEES</i>			\$7.490		



**For more information or in case of any questions
please contact us at:
studyabroad@ulacit.ac.cr**